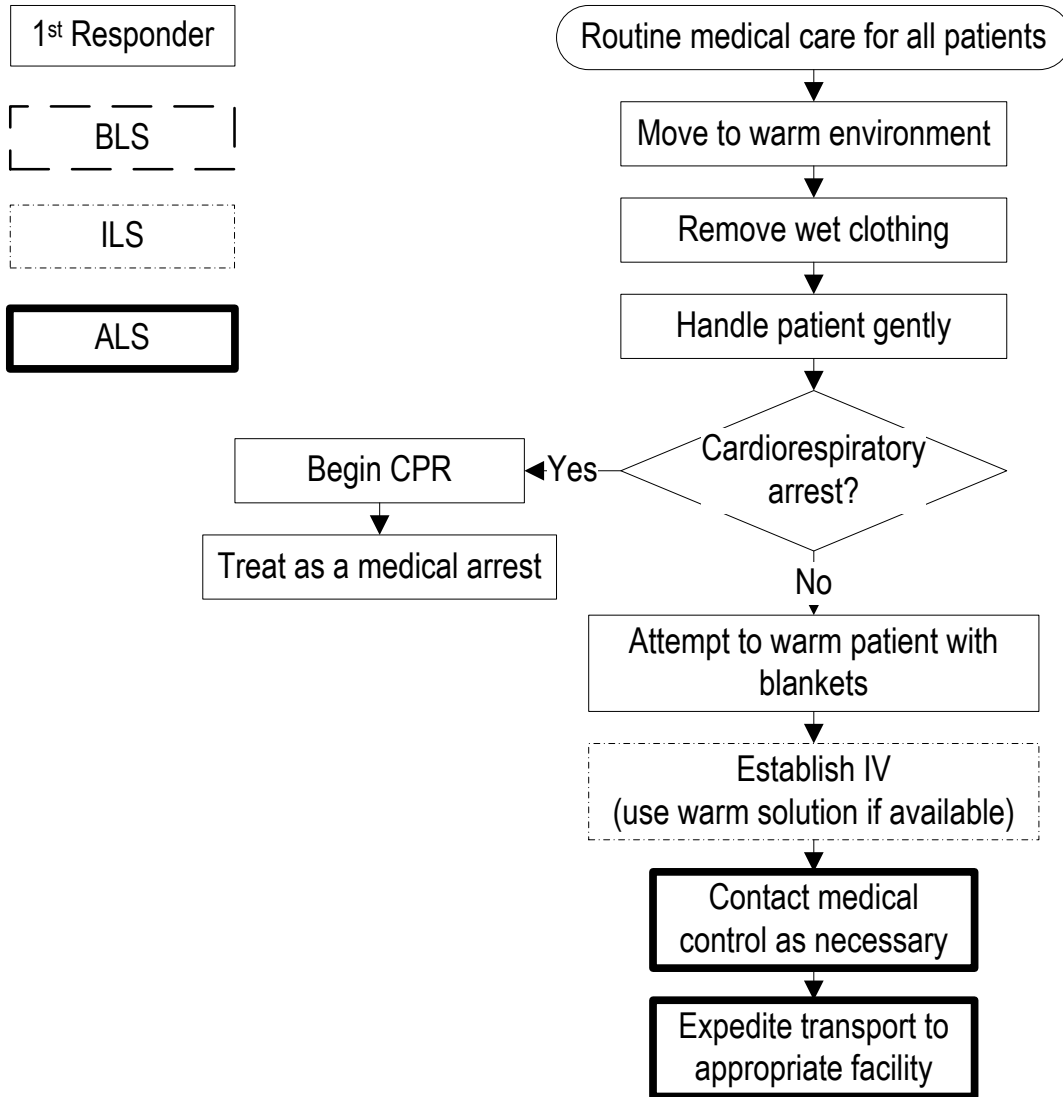


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Revision: 5

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS
STANDARD OF CARE
HYPOTHERMIA**

Approved by: Ronald Pirrallo, MD, MHSA
Page 1 of 1

History:	Signs/Symptoms:	Working Assessment:
Exposure to environment Extremes of age Drug use: Alcohol, barbiturates Patient wet History of infection	Cold Shivering or not Altered level of consciousness Pain or altered sensation to extremities Bradycardia Hypotension/shock	Hypothermia



NOTES:

- Hypothermia is defined as a core temperature below 95°F or 35°C.
- Young and old patients are more susceptible to hypothermia.
- Shivering stops below 90°F or 32°C
- Temperatures below 88°F or 31°C often cause ventricular fibrillation, which rarely responds to defibrillation. Hypothermic patients should be handled gently in an attempt to avoid this.
- Hypothermia may cause severe bradycardia. Pulses should be palpated for one full minute.